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Claims 26-28 and 5-9, 10-13, 18-21, and 23-25 were previously canceled as being directed to non-elected subject matter.

Claim 29 was added and claims 2 and 15 were cancelled during prosecution, leaving claims 1, 3-4, 14, 16-17, 22, and 29 pending at the time of this Final Action.

For clarity purposes, these claims are canceled and new claims 30-39 are added. Claims 30-39 are identical to original claims 1-4, 14-17, 22, and 29, respectively, with the exception that claims 22 and 29 are reordered as claims 38 and 39 due to dependency.

Claims 1-29: Canceled.

Claims 1-28 were filed originally.

30. (New) A method for processing an extensible mark up language (XML) document comprising:

parsing the XML document into schema elements and data elements; converting the schema elements into data type definition (DTD) objects; validating the data elements using the DTD objects; and

if valid, constructing an in-memory tree representation of the XML document using the data elements.

31. (New) The method of claim 30, wherein the converting comprises: calling a method in a first application program interface (API); and as a result of calling the first method, calling one or more methods in a second API to construct the DTD objects.

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- 32. (New) The method of claim 30, wherein the converting comprises referencing one or more tables that define the schema elements and associated functions for processing the schema elements.
- 33. (New) A computer-readable medium having computer-executable instruction, which when executed by a computer, performs the method of claim 30.
- 34. (New) An architecture for processing an extensible mark up language (XML) document comprising:
- a parser to parse the XML document into elements including schema elements and data elements;
- a schema node factory, called by the parser, to handle calls to construct a node in an in-memory tree representation of the XML document for the elements; and
- a schema builder, called by the schema node factory, to construct data type definition (DTD) objects used in validating the data elements.
- 35. (New) The architecture of claim 34, wherein the schema builder utilizes one or more tables to process the elements, the tables containing information defining a schema for the XML data.
 - 36. (New) A computer implemented with the architecture of claim 34.
 - 37. (New) A client-server system, comprising:
 - a server;
- a client connectable to the server to exchange extensible mark up language (XML) documents;

at least one of the client and the server implementing the architecture of claim 34.

- 38. (New) The architecture of claim 34, further comprising a validation node factory to evaluate whether the data elements comply with constraints set forth in the DTD objects.
- 39. (New) A system for processing an extensible mark up language (XML) document comprising:

means for parsing the XML document into schema elements and data elements;

means for converting the schema elements into data type definition (DTD) objects;

means for validating the data elements using the DTD objects; and if valid, means for constructing an in-memory tree representation of the XML document using the data elements.